

“MR. CHIPS” NEW ISSUES SERVICE

“ATLANTIC CITY INSIDER”

e-NEWSLETTER

Exclusively For Subscribers to
“Black’s New Issues Service”

JUNE, 2003

*Many of us are going to miss you
while in Las Vegas Bruce!*



BRUCE LANDAU (1945 -2002)
CC>CC CH-#002

“GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN”

“WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN, YOU CAN BET MR. CHIPS WILL BE THERE TO PICK THEM UP!”

ACCHIPS WEBSITE

Lots of new and older additional chips have been added to one of your favorite websites since your last visit... including roulettes.

www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/home.htm

You may now read (and download) all of the past issues of my popular Atlantic City Newsletter on-line by visiting my website.

CC>CC CONVENTION

Many of us will be attending the annual convention in Las Vegas this month... so this newsletter issue is being e-mailed to all subscribers extra early. Brenda and I are leaving on the 21st and won't return until the 30th. Hope to see many of you in Vegas. Sure wish Bruce Landau could have made this one.

15TH ANNIVERSARY CC>CC CHIP FROM TAJ MAHAL

The chips are here!! A.C. Chapter V.P. Mike Custodio made the purchase on Tuesday, June 10th just in time for the CC>CC Convention and will be mailing them out to those who have pre-ordered and pre-paid.



TAJ-5p



TAJ-25b

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BORGATA UPDATE



BORGATA HOTEL CASINO

Next month, the long-awaited unveiling of the fabulous property will be open to the public.

For you high-rollers ... a local daily newspaper story reported that Borgata has filed for permission to put into play two \$1000 slot token machines which will have a jackpot of \$1 million.

“Of the casino's 3,640 slot machines, two will accept the \$1,000 tokens, two

will accept \$500 tokens, 10 will take \$100 denominations and 16 will accept \$25 coins.”

A headline in the June 5th issue of The Asbury Park Press heralded; “BORGATA RESERVATIONS NO EARLIER THAN JULY 11TH”. The article further stated ... “Callers can sign up for a My Borgata card over the phone by calling (866) MY-BORGATTA, but a card can only be issued in person after the casino opens.

DAVID LEE ROTH CHIP AT TRUMP MARINA??



This chip is illustrated on the Trump Marina web site. No release date has been announced.

HARRAH'S SWITCHING FROM BUD JONES TO PAULSON RACK CHIPS!

I'm now advised that the reason for the back-up \$2.50 chip that was released last month, was due to inventory shortage of the original \$2.50 chips ... and because Harrah's will be switching over “soon” to Paulson chips.

Rather than order additional Bud Jones metal center chips for the \$2.50 chip shortfall, casino management decided to put the back-up chips into play to get some use out of them before the big changeover. It remains to be seen if other denominations from the back-up set will be introduced before we see the Paulson's.

GOING TO LAS VEGAS CC>CC CONVENTION!!

Will be leaving Newark Airport on Saturday, June 21st leaving Nancy and her two children and the dog behind (yea!). Will try to get the June chip mailing out before I leave so that chore won't be staring me in the face upon our return.

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NEW \$25 SLOT TOKEN AT ATLANTIC CITY HILTON



T HIL-25a

New slot tokens are going to be difficult to report on in the future if this issue is any indication of things to come. After putting a couple of one hundred dollar bills in the machine and hitting the payout button ... all I received was a paper voucher for \$200... which I promptly inserted in

the bill changer of the machine next to me. Pressing that payout button resulted in another paper voucher being dispensed for \$200, which I promptly took to the cashier's cage for redemption. I requested tokens instead of cash and was given these beautiful gems. My point being, how would anyone know that new tokens were in use at that property if they don't come out of the machine? Thanks to Jerry Birl for telling me in advance ..., as I would have never known.

JULIO IGLESIAS \$25 CHIP AT TRUMP PLAZA



TPP-25h

Only 240 Limited Edition chips of this popular headliner were manufactured ... but only 200 chips were distributed on the June 4th release date.

TROPICANA BEGINNING 7 PIECE \$5 RESTAURANT LIMITED EDITION SERIES



TRO-5aa
(LE 500)

When I said “Limited Edition”, that’s exactly what this issue is. Only 500 of a \$5 LE chip is bound to create interest and sometimes controversy ... this one was no exception. I don’t quite comprehend Tropicana’s reasoning for limiting these issues to such small numbers ... but I shouldn’t be surprised after witnessing some of their past shenanigans.

Brenda and I were in line at 11 a.m. for this 12 Noon release on Friday May 30th. Shortly after 12 Noon; only 360 chips were brought to the roulette table for distribution and it was announced that only five chips per person would be sold to any one individual. After the entire line had purchased their allotted five chips, those who were in front of

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the line had gotten back on the end of the line (which is standard practice in A.C.) and were prohibited from purchasing any additional chips

When Trop management was pressed as to why those in line couldn't get back on the end of the line... like every other property in town ... Trop's response was that these chips were for collectors and the pit boss was waving an internal memo n the air. When reminded that it was collectors who were in line waiting to buy these chips, the official response was “we (Trop) are not issuing chips for collectors to put on ebay for \$8 each”. Of course the pit boss didn't mention that Trop is guaranteed a \$4 profit on each chip that goes out the door... never to be seen by the casino again at no risk to the casino of being a winner as a result of a wager on a table.... nor did he address the fact that 140 of the 500 chips made were held back from distribution ... presumably for employee purchases who could then put the chips on ebay at whatever price the market will bear. It's like an in-house Tropicana employee profit-sharing program. Why else would Tropicana not make an announcement to the media that these chips would be on sale on such and

such a date and at what time instead of keeping it a deep dark secret?

Not to be denied ... I spent close to 8 hours at Tropicana ... from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ... tipping rolling chair operators \$5 each to leave their chairs unattended on the Boardwalk and go inside to purchase five lousy chips for me. I did this over 20 times in order to obtain enough chips for my new issues service. Believe it or not ... after dinner at 8:30 p.m. I purchased an additional 5 chips for myself from the remaining short stack that was still on the table ... well after the 8 p.m. shift change. Result: Instead of \$8, I must charge \$9 for this chip because of the \$1 premium paid in order to obtain them.

This chip release was the most frustrating and the absolute WORST administered LE chip release I have ever attended ... and there are six more to go in Trop's Marketplace series. I would guess that one of the next releases will occur during the week Brenda and I will be in Vegas attending the club's annual convention ... so you are all on your own for that one!

FAST FORWARD: On Friday, June 13th, Trop issued their 2nd chip in the series... James Salt Water Taffy.



TRO-5ab
(LE 500)

If you thought the previous chip release report at Trop was bad ... this latest one was a nightmare! The chip was supposed to be released at 12 noon. I got there at 11 a.m. Brenda could not be with me as she had a morning commitment back in Brick. The noon release was changed to 1 P.M. “because of the b.s. the pit boss was given two weeks ago “... so said one of the pit bosses to a group of chippers. When the chips arrived for the 1 p.m. distribution... the lady pit boss with an attitude announced to the seated roulette players ... “I don't want to see any of you players buying chips for these chip collectors in line”. “I could care less about these chips ... I've got a game to run.”

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Once again a very strict five chips per person limit was placed and rigidly enforced by the pit crew. One chipper (Scott) was seen offering money to someone on the casino floor to purchase five chips for him ... and security was immediately called and he was asked to leave the premises. Another chipper (Ron) had his two daughters with him ... and they were told that they had already purchased their five chips (which was untrue) and they were rebuffed.

Only 360 of the 500 chips were put on the table for public sale. 140 chips were held back ... presumably for employee purchases.

I picked up Brenda who came in by bus later in the afternoon, so she got her five chips o.k. But it was not until 9 p.m. before I acquired the necessary number of chips that I needed to fill my subscribers needs. Ten hours of begging, pleading and rewarding people to purchase chips for me paid off. Now, instead of having to go through an auction ... I'm simply adding \$1 to the purchase price of these chips to pay for the \$100+ I had to pay in “commissions” to some of my new-

found friends who helped me out in a time of need.

Earlier, around shift change time ... I had accompanied another friend of mine who offered to purchase five chips for me. I led him to the only roulette table where the chips were being sold from and an all new pit crew were behind the tables. The lady pit boss with an attitude was at an empty table one aisle over with her back to me talking with another pit boss on the players side of the table. This pit boss usually works in the craps pit and who also is a club member and a well known A.C. Chapter Member. Upon seeing me, he gestured to the Trop boss lady-with-an-attitude who whirled around and looked in my directions and I could read her lips ... “Yes, that's him”. Can you imagine ... a fellow chipper dropping a dime on me! I understand that this guy allegedly has complained to the Trump Plaza supervisor who is in charge of the chip program at the Plaza ... that he is making too many \$25 chips and is depressing the market.

Hmmmm... I wonder what this Trop pit boss' agenda is? Everybody knows where I'm coming from ... yes I sell

chips to other collectors from around the country who have requested that I provide chips to them at a markup over face value, but I rarely sell them on ebay. Something smells at Tropicana and it ain't the bums coming in off the boardwalk to purchase chips!

Two weeks earlier I was advised by the casino shift supervisor following the Corky's release that the five chip limit would be strictly enforced ... but chip collectors who wanted more than five chips would have to get somebody else to purchase them. Now, people such as Scott are faced with Trop security asking them to leave the premises for doing exactly what was suggested two weeks earlier.

If it were not for the fact that collectors would still purchase Tropicana chips on ebay and Jackpot auctions at tremendous unwarranted markups ... I would boycott any chip issued by Tropicana. But I realize that would serve no purpose other than to raise the prices on Tropicana chips in the secondary market far above what they are actually worth.

Tropicana will be issuing the 3^d chip in this series while I'm attending the

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club’s annual convention ... ironically at Tropicana in LAS VEGAS! You are all on your own regarding this issue. You’ll have to find someone else to get this chip from as I won’t be able to supply all of my subscribers. It will be interesting to see what these chips will selling for on ebay the day after the convention closes when most chippers will be out of town.

SHOWBOAT ISSUES \$5 LE CHIP TO COMMEMORATE NEW HOTEL TOWER GRAND OPENING

What a difference from one end of the Boardwalk to the other. While Tropicana rations out chips like they were gold to chip collectors at the west end of the wooden way ... Showboat at the east end takes a more sensible and reasonable approach by making enough chips to go around and by being “chipper friendly” with those who are purchasing their product.

However, no advance notice was given for this chip release either! I was originally tipped-off a few days earlier that this chip would be available at Noon on Saturday May 31st. Well,

Brenda and I were doing our usual Flea Market/Yard Sale ritual on Saturday mornings in the Atlantic City area ... and this Saturday happened to be the annual city-wide yard sale day in Egg Harbor City ... about a half hour’s drive west of A.C. out Route 30. We got up early for the drive out and planned to leave Egg Harbor by 10:30 in order to be on line at Showboat by 11 a.m.

Upon arriving at Showboat at close to 11, and inquiring as which table the chips would be released at, we were told that the chips have been on the table for over two hours. (Nobody told me the time had been changed to 9 a.m.) When I asked the supervisor if there were any limits placed on how many chips I could purchase... his jokingly reply was that, “You can have all you want.” Image the roulette dealers’ surprise when I laid down my bankroll with the surprised supervisor looking on and said; “I’ll take all the new Tower chips you’ve got”.... True to his word, he allowed me to purchase enough chips for all my new issue subscribers... over two hours after virtually everybody else had gotten theirs.... As I only bumped into one chipper after myself ... and he had to

get a fill delivered to the table after I had left.



**SHO-5d
(LE 1500)**

“BLACK’S ATLANTIC CITY CATALOG” 2003 EDITION



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\$36.00, plus \$3.85 Priority Postage



DON'T FORGET TO "BUY THE 2003 BOOK BEFORE THE CHIP"

CC>CC BUILDING FUND



DONATIONS RECEIVED SINCE MAY NEWSLETTER:

INVOICE REMINDER...

PLEASE ... don't forget to return your invoices with payment. It makes it so much easier on my end to figure out what month payment you are sending. If you wish to keep the invoice for your personal records, that's o.k., but at least write on your check in the memo portion, what chips you are paying for.

RARE TROPICANA CHIP BEING OFFERED FOR SALE!!



TRO-10b

By now, most of you know that I don't use the "R" word very often. I have been offered several \$10 chips that were intended for use at Tropicana, but were rejected by the casino and ordered destroyed. Only 30 of these chips are in existence and I had 10 of the 30 offered to me. I've sold over half of them and I'm offering the remaining pieces to my NI subscribers at \$300 each. If interested in obtaining one of these truly rare chips, please don't delay emailing me. They will be listed in my 2004 Atlantic City Catalog as C TRO-10b.

ATLANTIC CITY CHAPTER JULY MEETING

Mark your calendars. July 13th will be the next gathering of the A.C. faithful at Sands Hotel Casino. Should be a good meeting with lots of chips brought back from the June convention in Las Vegas.

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LIVE \$25 CHIP ISSUED AT RESORTS TO MARK 25th ANNIVERSARY!



RES-25g

This chip was issued on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th and was sent out to NI subscribers with the May mailing ... but the chip was not illustrated in the May e-newsletter, so just for the record, I am illustrating the chip in this June issue. The distinctive attraction about

this chip is the lenticular reverse ... similar to a hologram 3d effect.

25th ANNIVERSARY RESORTS NCV 2002 SERIES CHIPS

The promotion is now over and the prize winners have been announced. I now have most dates from this popular series available for sale at \$10 per chip. I have one almost-complete collection for sale that is missing only two of the 26 chips. (1988 & 2002). Price; \$185, plus P&I.

If interested, please email me at <mailto:ablack2@optonline.net>



The complete series can be viewed on my website at;

<http://www.callzia.com/dghome/acchips/res-25th-set1.htm>

WANTED: 1983; 1988; 1993; 1998; 2002.

WILL TRADE: TWO of any other dates of your choice (except '78 or '89) for any one of the five dates listed above.

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Common reverse side on all chips

\$46 FOR A CURRENT A.C. SLOT CARD ON EBAY!



Check this one out. Pretty card ... but \$46 ... and 12 bidders? Why am I messing around with selling chips?? There's a fortune to be made selling cards that are available for free just for picking them up.<vbg>

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=3225909611>

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Anybody want one for \$2 let me know and I'll send you one. Colorful photo hoto is of James Dean, Marilyn Monroe and Humphrey Bogart. It says “Limited Edition” on the back of the card ... but no indication of how many.

BORGATA SOFT OPENING?

According to an article in the Press of Atlantic City, Borgata CEO Robert Boughner has announced that, “there will be NO play-money event for the public. Instead, Borgata will have an invitation-only casino night with real money to test its gaming operation”.

**ARE YOU A
CC>CC
MEMBER??**

If not, I would be pleased to sponsor you. Please email me for a membership application.



NO, I'M NOT RUNNING FOR ANYTHING!

Archie

